

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. (ONCE AMENDED) A [D-DAFO] dynamic ankle foot orthosis comprising a posterior base shell with an upper tibia portion further including a front portion and a back portion disposed about a vertical axis, an outer anterior (pre-tibial) shell, a tongue, elastic strap means for securing said posterior base shell, said outer anterior shell and said tongue about said ankle foot orthosis, [and wherein said D-DAFO foot orthosis further includes an upper tibia portion with a front and back portion disposed about a vertical axis] , and said posterior base shell further includes a lower ankle forefoot portion with a top and bottom portion disposed about a horizontal axis of a subject patient's foot.
2. (ONCE AMENDED) A [D-DAFO] dynamic ankle foot orthosis according to claim 1, wherein said posterior base shell further includes a pair of upper flanges for securing the posterior base shell with the tongue and outer anterior shell with said attachment means provided about the upper tibia portion of the [D-DAFO] ankle foot orthosis and about the vertical axis.
3. (ONCE AMENDED) A [D-DAFO] dynamic ankle foot orthosis according to claim 1, wherein said posterior base shell further includes a pair of lower flanges for securing the posterior base shell with the tongue and said attachment means provided about the lower ankle forefoot portion of the [D-DAFO] ankle foot orthosis and about the horizontal axis.

4. (ONCE AMENDED) A [D-DAFO] dynamic ankle foot orthosis according to claim 1, wherein said attachment means for securing said posterior base shell and said pair of upper flanges with the tongue and said outer anterior shell about the upper tibia portion of the [D-DAFO] ankle foot orthosis and said vertical axis is an elastic Velcro strap.

5. (ONCE AMENDED) A [D-DAFO] dynamic ankle foot orthosis according to claim 1, wherein said attachment means for securing said posterior base shell with said pair of lower flanges with the tongue about the lower ankle foot portion of the [D-DAFO] ankle foot orthosis and said horizontal axis is a Velcro strap.

6. (ONCE AMENDED) A [D-DAFO] dynamic ankle foot orthosis according to claim 1, wherein said attachment means for securing said upper pair of flanges of said posterior base shell with said elastic strap, said tongue, and said outer anterior shell and said attachment means for securing said lower pair of flanges of said posterior base shell with said elastic strap, said tongue, and said outer anterior shell includes [rivet] attachment fasteners.

7. (ONCE AMENDED) A [D-DAFO] dynamic foot orthosis according to claim 1, wherein said posterior base shell further includes forefoot posting and hind foot posting disposed about said bottom portion of said lower ankle forefoot portion.

8. (ONCE AMENDED) A [D-DAFO] dynamic ankle foot orthosis comprising:

(a) a posterior base shell with an upper portion further including a front portion and a back portion disposed about a generally vertical axis, and a lower portion having a top portion and a bottom portion disposed about a generally horizontal axis:

- (b) said posterior base shell further includes a forefoot posting and a hindfoot posting at the bottom portion of said [D-DAFO] ankle foot orthosis;
- (c) an outer anterior pre-tibial shell for engaging said posterior base shell about both the vertical axis so as to maintain the [D-DAFO] ankle foot orthosis in proper attitude while ensuring dynamic flexibility;
- (d) a tongue disposed between the posterior base shell and outer anterior (pre-tibial) shell having an upper half portion and lower half portion to engage the [D-DAFO] ankle foot orthosis;
- (e) said front portion of said upper portion of said posterior base shell further includes a pair of external flanges, and said top portion of said lower portion of said posterior base shell further includes a pair of external flanges providing attachment means for the posterior base shell, and the tongue;
- (f) an elastic upper strap for retaining the the pair of external flanges on the upper portion of said posterior base shell and the upper half portion of the tongue;
- (g) a Velcro strap for retaining and securing said pre-tibial shell with the external flanges of the lower portion of said posterior base shell and the lower half portion of the tongue;
- (h) a liner disposed to engage the top portion of said lower portion of said posterior base shell and the outer anterior pre-tibial shell and the [D-DAFO] ankle foot orthosis posterior; and
- (i) fastener means provided for attaching and securing the elastic upper strap and Velcro strap with the pairs of external flanges disposed upon the upper portion and lower portion of the said posterior base shell for engaging the tongue and posterior base shell with the [D-DAFO] ankle foot orthosis about the patient's foot.